

This badge will help you discover what it takes to be a model citizen.

You've probably heard that the United States is electing a new President this year. Now, you are going to explore elections and voting in Washington so you understand how participating in elections is an important part of being a model citizen. Then, when you talk with your friends and family, you'll be able to help them understand this part of being a model citizen also.

1. Ask Around

Ask five people to answer the question, "What three things make someone a model citizen?" Write down their answers and put a star next to your top three answers.

2. Voting is Important

List three reasons why voting is an important part of being a good citizen. Present your list to your troop.

3. In Person

Visit your County Auditor's office. Try to schedule the visit during ballot processing which is the three weeks before and the three weeks after Election Day.

4. Puppets Vote

Watch the Secretary of State's short puppet show called "Why Vote?" Then tell an adult what you learned.

5. My Elected Officials

Find out the names of your county elected officials. Make a chart that shows who your county officials are and what they do.

6. "Are You Registered?"

Ask at least five adults you know if they are registered to vote or not. If they are registered ask them why it is important to vote. If they aren't registered, ask them why not.

7. Citizenship Worldwide

Talk with someone who has been a citizen of another country. Find out how leaders are appointed in that country. Are they elected? Who can vote?

8. Create it

Make a picture presentation of what a good citizen looks like. Either cut and paste pictures from newspapers and magazines, or use presentation software such as PowerPoint.

9. Practice Voting Part 1

Hold a mock election. Create a ballot then vote. Make sure the ballots are secret and that every person only votes once.

10. Practice Voting Part 2

After the real election, compare how the mock results compare/contrast with the real election results. Make a chart that shows the real and mock results.

11. Watch it

Watch the 2009 Presidential Inauguration on television with someone. After it is over, discuss this question: "Was it what I expected?"



Leaders, contact Lindsay Pryor at lpryor@secstate.wa.gov to register by December 22, 2009 for Girl Scout Day or for free resources that will help your troop complete this badge.



You are invited.



Simply complete
five activities and
then attend
GIRL SCOUT DAY
as your sixth activity!

When you complete the 2008 Voting and Elections Track of the Model Citizen badge, you are invited to attend **GIRL SCOUT DAY*** at the Office of the Secretary of State on January 23, 2009.

You will receive, in addition to your badge, a certificate of award signed by the Secretary of State and a voting themed button. You can even meet the Washington Secretary of State in person!

* Register by December 22, 2008. Space is limited.



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Model Citizen

Voting and Elections Track
for Junior Girl Scouts



**GIRL SCOUT DAY
JANUARY 23, 2009**

The Model Citizen badge helps you find out what it means to be a model citizen and make the world a better place.

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www.vote.wa.gov